Course Prefix and Number: PHI 225  Credits: 3

Course Title: Selected Problems in Applied Ethics

Course Description: Analyzes and discusses significant contemporary ethical issues and problems existing throughout the various professions, such as business, medicine, law, education, journalism, and public affairs. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: To provide a humanities elective which enhances critical reading, writing, and thinking skills.

Course Objectives: Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

a. Have heightened sensitivity toward everyday ethical dilemmas by having gone through a process of moral reasoning and reflection on such issues as capital punishment, euthanasia, family relief, etc.

b. Better understand and think more clearly about principles of moral action through having studied and reflected on the various ethical positions such as moral absolutism, cultural relativism, and utilitarianism.

c. Build a deeper sense of moral responsibility through the reading, thinking, and discussion of moral issues and ethical theories presented in class.

Major Topics to Be Included:

a. Ethical theories on the standards of moral right and wrong:
   1. Religious absolutism
   2. Cultural relativism
   3. Rational absolutism
   4. Utilitarianism

b. Morality of taking life:
   1. Suicide
   2. Euthanasia
   3. Abortion
   4. Capital punishment

c. The moral society:
   1. Famine relief
   2. Environmental ethics
   3. Affirmative action
   4. Privacy and its limits
   5. Animal rights

d. The moral or good life:
   1. Greek view of virtue
   2. Hedonism
   3. Spiritual enlightenment
   4. Will to power

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: Spring, 2014